

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

SAB-01 IO-10 AID-05 TRSE-00 SSM-03 /077 W

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R 021428Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9572

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

DAMASCUS 1102

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEL AVIV 0040

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR IS JO

SUBJECT: RENEWED SPECULATION ON ALLON' S PALESTINIAN INITIATIVE

REF: 75 TEL AVIV 8237

1. BEGIN UNCLAS: IN FRONT-PAGE ARTICLE IN JAN 1
MAARIV, POLITICAL COMMENTATOR JOSEPH HARIF REPORTS THAT
IN THE COURSE OF RECENT "POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS" FONMIN
ALLON HAS PROPOSED CONDUCTING TALKS ON A WEST BANK INTERIM
SETTLEMENT WITH A COMBINATION OF JORDANIAN REPRESENTATIVES
AND WEST BANK LEADERS. ACCORDING TO HARIF, PURPOSE OF
ALLON PROPOSAL WOULD BE TO ENGAGE WEST BANKERS IN SUCH TALKS
FROM OUTSET AS COUNTERWEIGHT TO PLO.

2. HARIF ADDS THAT ALLON UNDERSTANDS THAT HIS IDEA MAY NOT
BE ACCEPTABLE EITHER TO JORDANIANS OR TO WEST BANKERS, BUT
THAT IT WOULD THEN BECOME CLEAR THAT IT IS NOT ISRAEL THAT
MUST BEAR RESPONSIBILITY FOR ABSENCE OF PEACE.

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3. HARIF WRITES THAT IT IS NOT KNOWN WHETHER THIS PROPOSAL

WILL BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE CABINET ON JAN 4, ITS LAST MEETING BEFORE ALLON LEAVES FOR THE US. JERUSALEM POST (LANDAU) REPORTS TODAY THAT WHILE JAN 4 MEETING WILL FOCUS ON ALLON VISIT, ALLON HIMSELF HOPES DISCUSSION WILL BROADEN INTO FULL-SCALE "POLITICAL DEBATE". LANDAU GOES ON TO SAY THAT PRIMIN RABIN WOULD PREFER TO HAVE ALLON RESTRICT HIMSELF WHILE IN WASHINGTON TO "TACTICAL COORDINATION" REGARDING JAN 12 UNSC DEBATE. ALLON HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO LANDAU-VIEWS HIS MANDATE AS CONSIDERABLY BORADER AND PLANS TO BEGIN HIS TALKS WITH SECRETARY WITH "WIDE-RANGING SURVEY OF THE MIDDLE EAST SCENE".

4. JERUSAELM POST CARRIES COMPANION STORY UNDER LANDAU ARTICLE IN WHICH "VETERAN ARAB POLITICIANS IN EAST JERUSALEM" ARE CITED AS SEEING LITTLE HOPE OF SUCCESS FOR ALLON PROPOSAL. ACCORDING TO THOSE ARAB SOURCES, THE PLO HAS ESTABLISHED ITSELF SO FIRMLY AS SPOKESMAN FOR PALESTINIANS THAT IT CANNOT BE DEFIED EITHER IN JORDAN OR ON THE WEST BANK. END UNCLASSIFIED.

5. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE: COMMENT: WE WOULD BE VERY MUCH SURPRISED IF ALLON WERE TO ATTEMPT TO ACHIEVE CABINET AGREEMENT TO THE ABOVE PROPOSAL (OR ANY OTHER INITIATIVE ON PALESTINIAN QUESTION) AT THIS SUNDAY'S MEETING. SUCH ATTEMPT WOULD PROBABLY LEAD TO SHARP CONFRONTATION IN WHICH ALLON DOES NOT APPEAR TO HAVE THE NECESSARY VOTES. MOST IMPORTANT, HE DOES NOT HAVE THE BACKING OF PRIMIN RABIN. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.
TOON

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